

**B. Amendment to the Claims**

Please amend claim 19 as follows. A listing of all claims is provided.

1-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) An optical element having a film on its surface, said film comprising at least one layer of silica doped with ~~containing~~ fluorine, wherein a refractive index of the layer or layers of silica for F<sub>2</sub> laser light is 1.60 to 1.80.

20. (Previously Presented) The optical element according to claim 19, wherein said film further comprises a layer of a material selected from the group consisting of MgF<sub>2</sub>, LiF, and Na<sub>3</sub>AlF<sub>6</sub>.

21. (Previously Presented) The optical element according to claim 19, wherein said element is comprised of fluorite.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) The optical element according to claim 19, wherein said film is an antireflection coating.

24-25. (Cancelled)